5 Ways to Keep Kids Safer Online

1) **Agree on Rules**. Set up clear, simple, easy-to-read rules for Internet use. Post them on or near the monitor:
    - What web sites are okay to visit?
    - When and how long should you be online?
    - Where can they use the computer?

2) **Talk About It**. Keep an open line of communication between you and your child. Talking to your kids is key to helping them stay safe online.
    - Talk openly and honestly about what is and is not appropriate to do online.
    - Ask your kids to show you their online activities.
    - Discuss the risks without communicating fear.

3) **Implement Safety Tools.** Use software to filter the content and to monitor who and what reaches your computer. To see the Internet Filter Review of the top ten software applications, go to: *http://internet-filter-review.toptenreviews.com*

4) **Avoid Isolation.** Locate the computer in a central location where others can see the computer screen, never in a child's bedroom.

5) **Guard Personal Information.** Explain to your kid's what is *personal information* and discuss when it is appropriate to share it.

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"Keeping kids safe online isn't about technology; it's about parenting."
- Larry Magid & Anne Collier (2007)

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